

In the Claims

Claims 1-94 (canceled)

95. (currently amended) An isolated and purified polypeptide which facilitates binding of a retroviral vector ~~capable of transferring a gene into to~~ a target cell, wherein said retroviral vector is capable of transferring a gene into said target cell, wherein said polypeptide is a polypeptide consisting of ~~with a retrovirus vector which comprises SEQ. ID No. 5 or a~~ polypeptide encoded by a gene which hybridizes functional equivalents thereof, wherein the ~~functional equivalents are encoded by the gene hybridizable to~~ a complement of SEQ. ID No. 26 under highly stringent conditions.

Claims 96 and 97 (canceled)